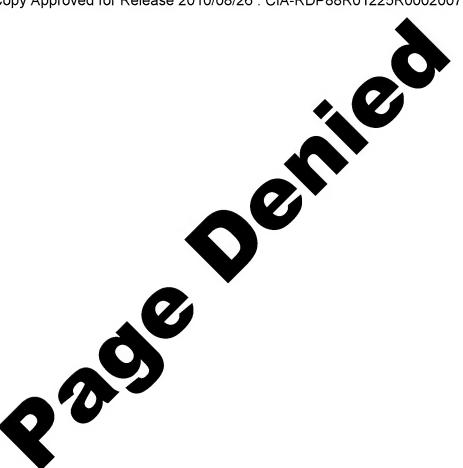
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21 JUN 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR:	See Distribution		
SUBJECT:	Southwest Reactor En Design Center	ngineering and Research	25X1
Reactor Enginee:	ring and Research Des: port your consideration	es the function of the Southwest ign Center, Chengdu, China. It is on of applications to export	25X1 25X1
		Director Scientific and Weapons Research	20/(1
Attachment: as stated			
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SUBJECT: Southwest Reactor Engineer	ing and Research Design Center	25X1
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1 - Carlton Stoiber, Chairman of Coordination, Room 7820 Depar		
1 - Albert Solga, Chairman of the		
Department of Commerce	of the model, and the model	
1 - SA/DDCI		
1 - Executive Registry		
1 - Executive Director		
1 - DDI		
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1 - CPAS/ILS 1 - CPAS/IMC		
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1 - D/OEA, DD/OEA		
1 - P&PD (via CPAS/IMC)		
2 - OCR/SSG/DB		
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## DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

11 June 1985

SOUTHWEST REACTOR ENGINEERING AND RESEARCH DESIGN CENTER	2
Summary	
The main focus of The Southwest Reactor Engineering and Research Design Center, (SWERC) currently appears to be research relating to civilian nuclear power, although research and development related to naval propulsion has been done there and may be continuing.	2
The Southwest Reactor Engineering and Research Design Center (SWERC) is located near Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China. Construction of the center began in 1966 and it is under the administration of the Ministry of Nuclear Industry. The principal research facility at the center is currently a 125 MW High Flux Test Reactor, which was completed in 1979 and began operation in the 1980-81 time period. About 3000 people work at SWERC, of whom about 1400 are engineers. SWERC has six Institutes: the Nuclear Reactor Operation Institute, the Nuclear Reactor Experiment Institute, the Nuclear Materials Institute, the FBR Institute, the PWR Design Institute, and the Experimental Plant.	
SWERC is China's principal nuclear energy research institute. Its 125 MW High Flux Test Reactor, which has a beryllium reflector and uses 90 percent enriched uranium fuel, is producing isotopes for both industrial and medical purposes. The center is conducting research in pressurized water reactor technology, fast breeder reactor technology, sodium technology for fast breeder reactors, and the nuclear fuel cycle including uranium ore recovery, fuel	
This memorandum was prepared at the request of	2
Carlton Stoiber, Chairman of the	25X1
Subgroup on Nuclear Export Coordination, room 7820, Department of	
State, and Albert Solga, Chairman of The Operating Committee,	\
room 2093, Department of Commerce. It was prepared by	2

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Scientific and Weapons Research. Comments and queries may be directed to Chief, Nuclear Energy Division, OSWR,

Nuclear Energy Division, Office of

element design and fabrication, and spent fuel reprocessing. One of its major programs is the technical design for the nuclear reactor for a nuclear heat and power station to be located at the Shanghai Petrochemical Works.

The Chinese have discussed several research programs at SWERC which appear to be naval propulsion related. Specifically, their research on fuel pellet-cladding interactions and pressure vessel embrittlement appear aimed at solving existing problems in pressurized water reactors. Since the only reactors of this type the Chinese have are in their submarines, we believe there is either a group dedicated to solving naval propulsion problems, or the military uses the expertise and facilities at SWERC to solve existing/projected problems in their naval nuclear reactors.

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